



Researchers at UCL in London are seeking volunteers with any kind of cochlear implant to participate in a study testing a method of speech perception training:

Many cochlear implant (CI) users achieve good levels of speech understanding. However, hearing through a CI is very different to normal hearing. Information about speech sounds is distorted and degraded in several ways, which is particularly problematic for speech recognition in noisy backgrounds. Reflecting these difficulties, CI users' speech recognition typically improves with everyday listening experience over periods of months or years after implantation. The aim of the proposed research is to investigate the extent to which training can facilitate CI users' speech understanding. Training will be carried out at home on tablet computers and will use recordings of stories divided up into phrases from which the listener selects target words from amongst similar alternatives. Different implementations of the same general approach will be targeted at CI users with different initial levels of speech understanding. The effectiveness of training will be examined with lab-based speech perception tests and with questionnaire-based measures of perceived benefit.

Travel costs to UCL will be paid (receipt or travel document needed).

For more information about the study and about how to take part, contact:

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